BEYOND ALL PRESENCE

UNTITLED (WE ARE A BODY)

Half-transparent mirror construction, taxidermy animal
5 x 5 x 3 m
sketch from 2024

In a forest the inside of a closed half-way mirror-cylinder hosts a breathing taxidermy puma. The visitors gaze at the animal with respect and subtle fear and at the same time at themselves in the forest. I think the constellation as a transformative spatial experience towards what can be called a tendency of modern and technological thought - which is the repression of our own naturalness. The mirror stands therefore as an example of ancient technology. The experience of the work intends to re-calibrate the viewers unconscious relations towards the physical world in a way that the feeling of the bodies embeddedness and dependency on the physical world re-emerges.

UN-GAZING

Glass wall, metal tube, taxidermy animal
2,4 x 2,4 x 3,5 m
sketch from 2024

In a wooded area, two opposite curved glass walls invite two visitors to enter. They are connected by a pole on which a harpy sits between the glass walls, one of the worlds most dangerous animals.

The work is an attempt to counteract our tendency to perceive the world by looking and thinking. The owl bird of prey appears threatening, as does the separation between the two visitors. The glass wall is conceived as a metaphor for technology (cell phones) through which we increasingly encounter each other in the world.

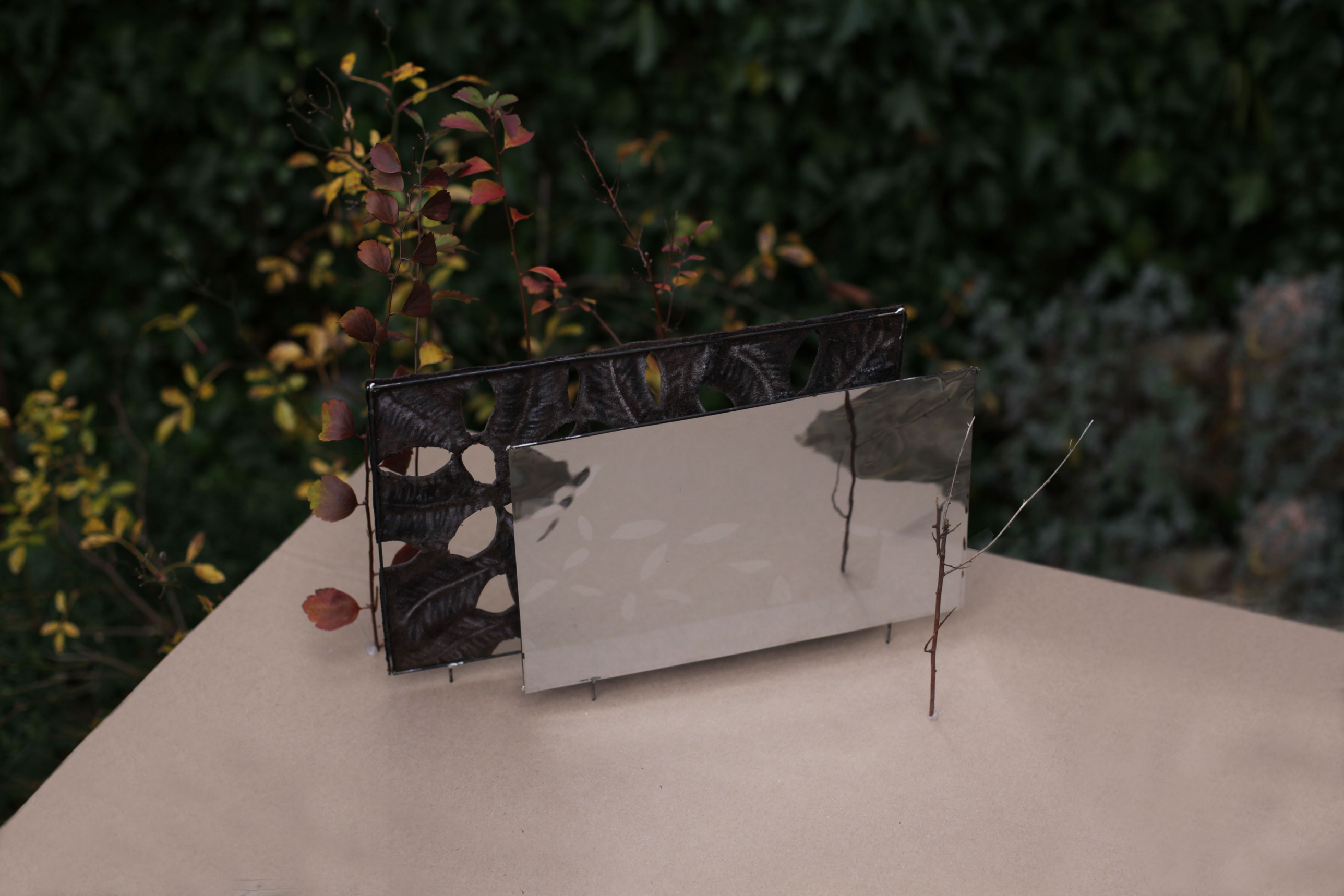
YAURU

living trained male lion
performance 3 days duration
sketch from 2014

As a proposal for the Festival of Future Nows at the Neue Nationalgalerie in Berlin, I envisaged to let an old male lion - trained for performing in movies - live on the roof of the museum for the duration of the festival.

The lions presence would be announced in the exhibition texts and due to the architecture of the building be possibly only visible from some high-rises in far distance. The animal would not be perceivable for the regular exhibition visitor and thus the work would take the shape of a powerful rumor and a corresponding feeling of uncannyness creating ultimately a myth.

Given the significance of the architecture today by looking back to the geopolitical moment and the ideological circumstances the building was conceived the work attempts to remind us on the condition of our collective unconscious expressed through a spatial-experiential logic.



OTHER I AND I OTHER

Half-transparent mirror foil, animal fur, metal construction
5 x 6 m
model from 2023

“There is nature wherever there is a life that has meaning, but where, however, there is no thought; hence the kinship with the vegetative: nature is what has a meaning, without this meaning being posited by thought: it is the auto-production of a meaning.“ - Merleau-Ponty

In light of these fundamental transformations, a psychoanalysis of nature can lead to a humanistic repositioning of the body in relation to the ecosphere.

For Merleau-Ponty, ‘flesh’ represents the invisible membrane that makes the unity of opposites possible. This unity is a process, the relation between us and the body and between us and the world. The non-specific character of the body positions it ‘entre deux’ (between two). It allows the intertwining between the organic and the psychic, nature and culture. The unconscious is the psychic system through which Freud unifies the human being as an organism (the organic body) and as a psychic/spiritual being. In ‘Phenomenology of Perception’ Merleau-Ponty affirms that there is no nature in itself. Nature and history are inseparable, for all natural phenomena are from the beginning part of cultural and historical orders.

UNTITLED

living snake, live video stream installation
performance, durational
sketch from 2024

In a museum a screen is installed showing the livestream from the storage basement of the same building in which a living snake moves on and in-between the paintings and sculptures of the archive in which works dealing with various historical conceptions of nature are collected.

UNTITLED

taxidermy deer, speakers, mirrors, steel construction
5 x 3 x 3 m
sketch from 2024

For ‚Untitled' a construction is uplifting a taxidermy deer, speakers and 3 mirrors.
The speakers occasionally sound the call of a deer making the position of the work easily tradable within the forest.

The work is based on the reversal of hunter and prey referring to the spatial hierarchy of the hunter stand. The visitor can see herself in the mirror behind which the deer hides.

UNTITLED

living beehive, chairs, office environment
Sketch from 2024

In an office space chairs are installed circularly for visitors to take a seat. In the middle of the circle a living beehive is hanging from the ceiling. with its vibrant swarm doing its daily duty by collecting pollen and entering through a door in the facade, a metaphor is created that questions the collective unconscious of the social organism of the company by sharing an experience of humming sounds in unison and the incredible dedication to communal action.

LYOTARD'S LOVE

Short film 20 min
completion sheduled for 2024

Lyotard's Love is build on thoughts that are sketched out in Jane Bennett's book Vibrant Matter. In her text Bennett ascribes forces and actions to things. She says assemblages of matter are agentic entities that influence the world and thus can be anthropomorphized. Bennett's vital materiality means here to see the things in their vitality without granting them a soul or spirituality. They are defined in their vibrancy through what they evoke, thus do to us or their surroundings.

Following on Bennett's thoughts the film-work ‚Lyotard's Love' is the intimate love story of a human and the anthropomorphized building Convent de la Tourette by Le Corbusier that is seen as an assemblage of concrete, the electrical grid, sewers, heating system, warmth, shelter, rhythmical infall of sunlight, dust, wood, steel, a micro-climate in its courtyard, etc. Further the human is depicted as another kind of assemblage taking account of the millions of micro-organisms living on and within it, the food that it eats, the water that it drinks, the particles of and the air it breathes and the ideas and feelings shared with other people.